

DT05 Rec'd PCT/PTO 14 DEC 2004

AMENDMENT

To: Commissioner of the Patent Office
(Mr. Motohiro Okumura, Examiner of the Patent Office)

1. Identification of the International Application
PCT/JP03/07560

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4. Date of Notification 23.03.2004

5. Item to be amended Description and Claims

6. Subject Matter of Amendment

- (1) The description on lines 1 to 12 on page 4 in the specification is deleted. The description is "the invention described in claim 2 is a card issuing system comprising a card issuing center for storing card writing data including specific information such as a card number and/or personal information prepared based on a request for IC card application from a customer, wherein the card issuing system has a center communication means for transmitting the customer's card writing data to a base via a network, and receiving a result of writing the card writing data into the IC card in the base from the base via the network, and wherein the card writing data are transmitted to the base securely by communication with the base".
- (2) The description on lines 12 to 21 on page 5 in the specification is deleted. The description is "the invention described in claim 10 is a card issuing method which is used by a card issuing center for storing card writing data including specific information such as a card number and/or personal information prepared based on a request for IC card application from a customer, wherein the customer's card writing data are transmitted to a base via a network, and a result of writing the card writing data into an IC card in the base is received from the base via the network, the card writing data are transmitted to the base securely by communication with the base".

- (3) "The inventions described in claims 1, 2, 5, 9, 10 and 13" on lines 5 to 6 on page 6 in the specification is amended to "the inventions described in claims 1, 5, 9 and 13".
- (4) The description on lines 22 to 30 on page 24 and lines 1 to 3 on page 25 in Claims is deleted. The description is "2. A card issuing system comprising a card issuing center for storing card writing data including specific information such as a card number and/or personal information prepared based on a request for IC card application from a customer, wherein the card issuing system has a center communication means for transmitting the customer's card writing data to a base via a network, and receiving a result of writing the card writing data into the IC card in the base from the base via the network, wherein the card writing data are transmitted to the base securely by communication with the base".
- (5) "claim 1 or 2" on line 5 on page 25 in Claim is amended to "claim 1".
- (6) "any one of claims 1 to 3" on lines 15 to 16 on page 25 in Claim is amended to "claim 1 or 3".
- (7) "any one of claims 1 to 6" on lines 16 to 17 on page 26 in Claim is amended to "any one of claims 1 and 3 to 6".
- (8) "any one of claims 1 to 7" on lines 21 to 22 on page 26 in Claim is amended to "any one of claims 1 and 3

to 7".

- (9) The description on lines 14 to 24 on page 27 in Claim is deleted. The description is "10. A card issuing method which is used by a card issuing center for storing card writing data including specific information such as a card number and/or personal information prepared based on a request for IC card application from a customer, wherein

the customer's card writing data are transmitted to a base via a network, and a result of writing the card writing data into an IC card in the base is received from the base via the network,

the card writing data are transmitted to the base securely by communication with the base".

- (10) "claim 9 or 10" on line 26 on page 27 in Claim is amended to "claim 9".

- (11) "any one of claims 9 to 11" on lines 6 to 7 on page 28 in Claim is amended to "claim 9 or 11".

- (12) "any one of claims 9 to 14" on lines 5 to 6 on page 29 in Claim is amended to "any one of claims 9 and 11 to 14".

- (13) "any one of claims 9 to 15" on lines 10 to 11 on page 29 in Claim is amended to "any one of claims 9 and 11 to 15".

6. List of Attached Documents

(1) Specification, pages 4 to 6

(2) Claims, pages 24 to 28

The invention described in claim 5 is a card issuing system comprising a base for writing card writing data including specific information such as a customer's card number and/or personal information into an IC card and
5 issuing the IC card to the customer, wherein a terminal has a card communication mediate means for receiving the customer's card writing data from a card issuing center via a network, transmitting the customer's card writing data to the IC card connected to the terminal without storing
10 the card writing data in the terminal in the base, and transmitting a result of writing into the IC card to the card issuing center via the network, and wherein the card writing data are received from the card issuing center securely by communication with the card issuing center.

15 The invention described in claim 9 is a card issuing method which is used by a card issuing center for storing card writing data including specific information such as a card number and/or personal information prepared based

on a request for IC card application from a customer, and
a base for receiving the card writing data from the card
issuing center via a network and writing them into the IC
card so as to issue the IC card, wherein the card issuing
5 center transmits the customer's card writing data to the
base via a network, the base receives the card writing data
from the card issuing center and transmitting them to the
IC card connected to a terminal without storing the card
writing data in the terminal in the base, thereby securing
10 security of the specific information and/or the personal
information included in the card writing data.

The invention described in claim 13 is a card issuing
method which is used by a base for writing card writing
data including specific information such as a customer's
15 card number and/or personal information into an IC card
so as to issue the IC card to the customer, wherein the
customer's card writing data are received from a card
issuing center via a network and are transmitted to the
IC card connected to a terminal without storing the data
20 in the terminal in the base, and a result of writing into

the IC card is transmitted to the card issuing center via the network, and wherein the card writing data are received from the card issuing center securely by communication with the card issuing center.

5 According to the inventions described in claims 1, 5, 9 and 13, a step and a means that store the card writing data into the terminal are deleted from the conventional two card writing steps, so that the data can be written directly into the IC card in the base. For this reason,
10 the security of the specific information such as a card number and the personal information is secured in the bases, and the IC card can be issued in real time.

 The invention described in claim 3 is a card issuing system having in the card issuing center a log management
15 database for storing a communication result such that the card writing data have been transmitted from the card issuing center to the base and for receiving the card writing data, and for receiving the result of writing into the IC card from the base so as to store it.

20 The invention described in claim 11 is a card issuing method, wherein a communication result such that the card writing data have been transmitted from the card issuing center to the base is stored in a log management database in the card issuing center, the card writing data are
25 received, and a result of writing into the IC card is received from the base so as to be stored in the log management database.

 According to the inventions described in claims 3 and 11, the communication result between the card issuing
30 center and the base can be managed, and the data can be

CLAIMS

1. A card issuing system comprising a card issuing center for storing card writing data including specific information such as a card number and/or personal information prepared based on a request for IC card application from a customer, and a base for receiving the card writing data from the card issuing center via a network, writing them into the IC card and issuing the IC card, wherein
 5 the card issuing center has a center communication means for transmitting the customer's card writing data to the bases via the network, and
 10 the base has a card communication mediate means for receiving the card writing data from the center communication means and transmitting the card writing data to the IC card connected to a terminal without storing them in the terminal of the base,
 15 thereby securing security of the specific information and/or the personal information included in the card writing data.
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2. (cancelled)

3. (amended) The card issuing system according to claim 1,
 25 wherein the card issuing system has in the card issuing center a log management database
 for storing a communication result such that the card writing data have been transmitted from the card issuing center to the base, and
 30 for receiving the card writing data and for

receiving the result of writing into the IC card from the base so as to store it.

4. (amended) The card issuing system according to any one
 5 of claims 1 or 3, wherein the card issuing system has in the card issuing center a control terminal authentication means for determining availability of an access to the card issuing center from the terminal in the base based on a control terminal authentication database in which
 10 authentication information specific to the terminal is stored.

5. A card issuing system comprising a base for writing card writing data including specific information such as
 15 a customer's card number and/or personal information into an IC card and issuing the IC card to the customer, wherein
 a terminal has a card communication mediate means for receiving the customer's card writing data from a card issuing center via a network, transmitting the customer's
 20 card writing data to the IC card connected to the terminal without storing the card writing data in the terminal in the base, and transmitting a result of writing into the IC card to the card issuing center via the network, and
 the card writing data are received from the card
 25 issuing center securely by communication with the card issuing center.

6. The card issuing system according to claim 1 or 5, wherein the terminal has a reader/writer authentication
 30 means for determining availability of an access to the

terminal from a card reader/writer for writing the card writing data into the IC card based on a reader/writer authentication database into which authentication information specific to the card reader/writer is stored.

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7. (amended) The card issuing system according to any one of claims 1 and 3 to 6, wherein the IC card is determined as authenticated or unauthenticated by using a key which is the same as an access key stored in the IC card.

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8. (amended) The card issuing system according to any one of claims 1 and 3 to 7, wherein a new IC card is issued to a customer or personal information and application programs in an issued IC card are rewritten in the base.

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9. A card issuing method which is used by a card issuing center for storing card writing data including specific information such as a card number and/or personal information prepared based on a request for IC card application from a customer, and a base for receiving the card writing data from the card issuing center via a network and writing them into the IC card so as to issue the IC card, wherein

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the card issuing center transmits the customer's card writing data to the base via a network, and

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the base receives the card writing data from the card issuing center and transmitting them to the IC card connected to a terminal without storing the card writing data in the terminal in the base,

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thereby securing security of the specific

information and/or the personal information included in the card writing data.

10. (Cancelled)

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11. (amended) The card issuing method according to claim 9, wherein

a communication result such that the card writing data have been transmitted from the card issuing center to the bases is stored in a log management database in the card issuing center, and

the card writing data are received, and a result of writing into the IC card is received from the base so as to be stored in the log management database.

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12. (amended) The card issuing method according to claim 9 or 11, wherein availability of an access to the card issuing center from a terminal in the base is determined based on a control terminal authentication database in which authentication information specific to the terminal is stored.

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13. A card issuing method which is used by a base for writing card writing data including specific information such as a customer's card number and/or personal information into an IC card so as to issue the IC card to the customer, wherein

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the customer's card writing data are received from a card issuing center via a network and are transmitted to the IC card connected to a terminal without storing the

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data in the terminal in the base, and a result of writing into the IC card is transmitted to the card issuing center via the network, and

the card writing data are received from the card
5 issuing center securely by communication with the card issuing center.

14. The card issuing method according to claim 9 or 13, wherein the availability of an access to the terminal from
10 a card reader/writer for writing the card writing data into the IC card is determined based on a reader/writer authentication database in which authentication information specific to the card reader/writer is stored.

15 15. (amended) The card issuing method according to any one of claims 9 and 11 to 14, wherein the IC card is determined as being authenticated or unauthenticated using a key which is the same as an access key stored in the IC card.

20 16. (amended) The card issuing method according to any one of claims 9 and 11 to 15, wherein a new IC card is issued to a customer or personal information and application programs in an issued IC card are rewritten in the base.